

To some skeptical editors who are less than enchanted with the concept, public journalism means handing the reins over to amateurs—and trading objectivity and detachment for reader chumminess.

There is no prescribed formula for the practice of public journalism, however, and there's no reason why common sense shouldn't prevail in applying it.

When great numbers of readers take a proprietary interest in the Times—when they call us to applaud or criticize “my newspaper,” and when people who work here take the position that public service is their primary mission—we're surely on the right track.

Letters to the Editor, and a range of opinion columns by writers who live in our towns, and our “Sound Off” feature, and our Earthkeeping Forum, and our Cape Cod Times Needy Fund, and the Volunteers in Journalism group recently established by members of our news staff—all are aspects of what I think of as public journalism.

But we can and should be doing more.

Last year's “Cape Cod Agenda” project was our most thoroughgoing effort at inviting the public to tell us and their political representatives where we should be focusing our attention. In order to help persuade November's batch of candidates to focus on issues that matter, we asked members of our Citizens Election Panel—a diverse panel of public-minded citizens chosen for us from a pool of volunteers by the League of Women Voters—to cite the local and regional issues most important to them. Then we invited readers to narrow the panel's two dozen issues to six, and we declared those issues to constitute the “Cap Cod Agenda.”

Agenda issues were debated by candidates—and discussed at length at a series of programs where the citizenry did most of the talking and the candidates came primarily to listen.

This fall the Times will again invite you and your neighbors to set an agenda for Cape Cod, and to talk to us and each other about things that matter individually and collectively. The agenda format may change this year, but the objective will be the same—encouraging community leaders, and the Times itself, to do a better job of serving our community of readers.

Do you think we're on the right track?

Would you like to be involved in one way or another? A postcard or letter to Agenda '95, Cape Cod Times, 319 Main Street, Hyannis, MA 02601, will get my attention and will assure you a seat on the train.

Welcome aboard.

And while I have your attention, I would like to go on record with a couple of concluding observations.

First, I'd like to say that serving as editor of the daily newspaper that serves this remarkable corner of America has been more fun than a barrel of cranberries. (Well, most days.) That has been so because I've had the privilege of working with a wondrous crew of talented, steadfast journalists who care deeply about their world and their chosen profession.

And second—to the legions of friends and acquaintances who greet me these days with the words, “I hear you're retiring,” I would like to say:

You've got to be kidding! My wife's got 17 years' worth of untended chores saved up as retirement projects.

I'm not the retiring type. It's just that someone else deserves a turn at this nifty job I've had.

## IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICE OF KOREAN WAR VETERANS

### HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 1995

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, today our Nations honors the many soldiers who fought in the forgotten war in Korea by dedicating the Korean War Veterans Memorial on the Mall. This Memorial is a tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by all the men and women who served.

Near the entrance to the memorial, an inscription reads, “Our Nation Honors Her Sons and Daughters Who Answered the Call to Defend a Country They Did Not Know and People They Had Never Met.” The bravery of these Korean War veterans is inscribed in our history. They served our country in places like the Chosin Reservoir, Inchon, and Pusan. Some who went and fought did not come home, but made the ultimate sacrifice. In fact, some 54,000 Americans lost their lives. Others who served experienced events that changed their lives forever.

In Korea, United States soldiers fought in a United Nations force alongside soldiers from all over the world. As part of this multinational force, some 114,000 men and women from Minnesota answered the call to serve. Minnesotans served in all branches of our military service and they served with honor and distinction. Six hundred and eighty-eight Minnesotans were killed in action.

Because of their sacrifices and those of other United Nations troops, the Republic of Korea's freedom was preserved. Over the past 42 years, the Republic of Korea has emerged from the ruins of the war and has built one of the most successful economies in Asia.

The Korean War Veterans Memorial will be a permanent reminder for visitors to our Capital of the American soldiers who served in a difficult and costly war in Korea. As a Member from the State of Minnesota, I am proud to say that the cutting, etching, and polishing of the soldiers' faces on the granite of the memorial was done in our State at Cold Spring, Minnesota.

The memorial on the Mall is a testament to the sacrifices of the soldiers who fought and to those who never made it home. It is also a testament to those veterans who vowed never to forget their comrades. It was through their efforts that this memorial was built. I was proud to have a role in supporting and helping guide the policy and laws that facilitated this Korean War Veterans Memorial.

I join with all Americans in proudly saluting the bravery and service of America's Korean War veterans.

## TRIBUTE TO KOREA VETERANS

### HON. WILLIAM J. MARTINI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 1995

Mr. MARTINI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember an important chapter in American history. It was not long ago that American soldiers were fighting in the name of democracy on the shores of Korea. While it is necessary

to put those days behind us, it is also important not to lose sight of the tremendous acts of courage by our Armed Forces that are responsible for this new cordial period.

Today, here in our Nation's Capital, we will honor the men and women who gallantly served our country in the Korean war. Across from the Vietnam Memorial and in the shadow of the Lincoln Memorial, the Korean War Memorial will stand in the company of the most celebrated monuments in the Nation. It is a tribute to all those brave men and women who donned a U.S. military uniform, including those who lost their lives and those still missing. As Americans, we are indebted to the soldiers who placed their own lives on the line in order to protect the cornerstones of American freedom. They fought to protect the freedom to speak without the fear of Government censorship. They fought for the freedom to freely worship any religion without fear of retribution. All in all, they fought for the very principles that our Founding Fathers wrote into the four corners of the Constitution.

In an era that is often assumed to be bereft of leaders, we overlook these true American heroes. As a nation, we must ensure that those who have honorably served and died in our Armed Forces are remembered with gratitude. The decision to serve this country was a selfless act not only to protect the future of the United States, but the beliefs on which we founded our Nation. When the country called, these courageous young soldiers stared fear in the face and accepted the challenge no matter the cost. They embody the traits that we, as a nation, should all strive to emulate.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that we all bow our heads in remembrance of the valiant young men and women who have pledged to protect the principles of freedom that we, as Americans, cherish as no other nation on Earth.

## THE FOURTH ANNUAL OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

### HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 1995

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I was privileged to serve as a member of the U.S. delegation to the recently concluded 4th annual meeting of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, held in Ottawa from July 4–8. Our delegation was co-chaired by Helsinki Commission ranking member, STENY H. HOYER and Representative MICHAEL P. FORBES, and included our colleagues, LOUISE M. SLAUGHTER, ROBERT G. TORRICELLI, RONALD D. COLEMAN and THOMAS C. SAWYER.

The Parliamentary Assembly, created as a result of a United States initiative during the Bush administration, is designed to help integrate newly independent countries and emerging democracies in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union into western-style organizations. Through the Assembly, those responsible for crafting the laws which implement civic and economic reforms in the new democracies have the opportunity to share their experiences with, and gain advice from, parliamentarians from established democracies. Participation by parliamentarians from the reforming countries was strong in Ottawa. Forty-seven of OSCE's 52 fully participating States were represented in Ottawa, as